



Central Lutheran  
MINNEAPOLIS

# the Spirit

FEB. 29/MAR. 1, 2020



## life together

### Welcome to Lent!

Every year we begin this season of the church year by gathering for Ash Wednesday and being reminded of how we are dust and to dust we shall return. The first Sunday of Lent we always read

the story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness. The Spirit drives him into the wilderness, and he is met there by the devil. The devil makes all kinds of empty promises of food and immortality and power. Jesus responds to these temptations deeply grounded in his relationship with God and using scripture to back him up.

This is quite different than the popular idea of Lent. If our culture knows anything about Lent, they tend to equate it with giving up something like chocolate or shopping for the season. A local news channel asked what you were giving up for Lent as their question of the morning on Wednesday. While fasting is one of the invitations we make during Lent, so is donating money to the less fortunate and so is taking on a new or additional time of prayer.

Here at Central we won't be asking about your chocolate consumption, unless you are an usher, because Karen stops filling your goodie jar with snickers, but we do have some invitations to Lenten practices: stay and enjoy a simple soup lunch on Wednesdays after worship; and visit some new spaces that have been created to encourage prayer as you traverse the labyrinth and a space in the back of the sanctuary with candles for contemplation. We are focusing our donations during Lent to ELCA World Hunger knowing that people are hungry all over the world, not just in our neighborhood and when we do the work of fighting hunger together as a global church, we move farther and faster. We have worship opportunities at 12:00 and 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday and a study on the Lord's Prayer both on Wednesdays and Sundays. You are creative people and I know you will find a myriad of ways to make this Lent meaningful. Welcome to Lent!

Pastor Melissa

### Lenten Adult Faith Formation

#### March

##### 1 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. – Small Catechism and Lord's Prayer Introduction

##### 4 – Wednesday

6:00 p.m. – Small Catechism and Lord's Prayer Introduction

##### 8 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. – Lord's Prayer Petitions 2, 3 and 4

##### 11 – Wednesday

6:00 p.m. – Lord's Prayer Petitions 2, 3 and 4

##### 15 – Sunday

9:30 a.m. – Austen Hartke - Open to the Mystery of God in Diversity

12:00 p.m. – Empowering Conversations:

Austen Hartke - Open to the Mystery of God in Diversity

### Giving to ELCA World Hunger

As we pray, "Give us this day our daily bread..." we know that there are many people in our world, more than 1 in 10 who do not have the access they need to healthy food that allows them to live active, thriving lives. This Lent be a part of ending hunger in the United States and in the rest of the world through giving to ELCA World Hunger.

"From health clinics to microloans, food pantries to soup kitchens, advocacy to community organizing, your gifts are supporting meaningful solutions that get at the root causes of



hunger." At the welcome desk during Lent you can pick up a jar wrapper or two or three to take home. Find a jar that needs recycling and set it somewhere where you empty your loose change and let's see how much support we can raise. Or take a jar wrapper to post to your cube at work or fridge at home to remember how you can choose to eat simply so that your resources can help folks simply eat.

We will kick off the season with the Generosity Team's fun "Caring Ones" offering that will be collected this weekend. If you have more questions about ELCA World Hunger and the great work we do around the world as church, please ask Pastor Melissa.

Exploring the promise of God for all

# worship and formation

## Listening to Your Life Lenten Devotional

You are invited to pick up a Lenten devotional today at the welcome desk. Fellow members of the congregation have written devotional meditations on the Lord's Prayer. The Lord's Prayer will be our guide for the season of Lent. There are also devotional resources on the weekends for going deeper with the Lord's Prayer or meditating on the weekend's gospel reading.

The devotionals are also being emailed each morning to all who are on the eNews distribution list. If you are not receiving them, you can sign up to receive them at the welcome desk. What a blessing to journey together to the cross and Easter Sunday by meditating together on the Lord's Prayer.

## Lenten Worship

Intentional time reflecting on the Lord's Prayer through the lens of Martin Luther's teaching in the Small Catechism guides our Wednesday mid-day prayer and helps shape the evening prayer experience.

## Wednesdays in Lent

**12:00 p.m.** - Service of Word and Prayer

**12:30 p.m.** - Light lunch follows service (soup, bread and salad)

**1:00 p.m.** - God's Word in Our Midst Bible Study

**4:00 - 8:00 p.m.** - Prayer stations; prayer around the cross; labyrinth (in the sanctuary)

**5:50 - 6:50 p.m.** - Bell Choir Rehearsal

**6:00 p.m.** - Adult faith formation reflection on the Lord's Prayer through the lens of Martin Luther's teaching in the Small Catechism

**7:00 - 7:30 p.m.** - ELW Evening Prayer

**7:30 p.m.** - Central Choir rehearsal

## "Caring Ones" offering to begin the weekend of February 29-March 1

Central's congregation is a generous and caring one and "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). So we offer another opportunity to grow in mission support beyond our regular giving. As we enter the Lenten season, the Generosity Ministry Team, formerly known as Faith and Finances, is inaugurating a new quarterly offering called "Caring Ones" (\$1 bills). Worshipers are invited to place dollar bills in the offering plate. This new mission offering will begin at all services on the weekend of Saturday, February 29 and Sunday, March 1.

The ministry team is excited to invite everyone, including those who regularly give their offering electronically online, to place dollar bills in the offering plate the first weekend of each quarter—March, June, October and December. This new offering of loose dollar bills will be received for mission support beyond our regular budget. Our March offering is designated for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

## Baptism Orientation Discussion

Anticipating a baptism in your family? Complete the baptism request form on the website and attend the monthly baptism orientation discussion on Sunday, March 1 at 11:45 a.m. in the epiphany room. You are welcome to bring your food from the Sunday meal if you desire.

## New and Potential Member Orientation Discussion

Are you considering joining Central? Are you a new member seeking to get more involved? Stop by the monthly new member discussion on Sunday, March 1 at 11:45 a.m. in the trinity room. You are welcome to bring your food from the Sunday meal if you desire.

# community

## Homeless Day on the Hill

Wednesday, March 11

Heading Home Central and Align Mpls will be sponsoring a bus from Central to the State Capitol for this important advocacy event to secure funding for affordable housing and tenant rights. Sign up at the welcome desk. The bus will board at 7:30 a.m. at Central for this important time to meet with your legislators.

## Middle School Week of Service, Learning and fun

June 22-25

In our cadence of experiential learning for students in grades 6-9, this summer is a service learning year for our middle school kids. Pastor Peter and Pastor Jeffrey are excited to lead this great group through a week of learning and fun! On Monday we will serve at the Restoration Center and then head out for some fun. On Tuesday we will work on the new children's natural play area here at church. On Wednesday we will head up for an overnight at Camp Amnicon and do service project work at camp, returning on Thursday.

There will be an information and sign-up meeting at 11:45 a.m. on Sunday, March 8. This trip is designed and intended for all students entering grades 6 through 9. We'll ask for a \$50 deposit to hold your spot and parent volunteers. We're excited to spend the week learning and having fun together!

## Ash "Wednesday" Worship and Dinner with Tree of Life

Sunday, March 1, 4:00 p.m., The Neu Neu, 514 N 3rd St, Minneapolis  
Come begin Lent with evening prayer with communion and receiving ashes, then gather for dinner together. Please note that worship begins at our new Sunday time of 4:00 p.m.! Check Facebook.com/TreeofLifeMpls for details or contact Pastor Marissa at PastorMarissa@TreeofLifeMpls.org.

## "Sofas & Spokes" coming soon!

Saturday, May 16, Hennepin Avenue United Methodist  
The annual Align Minneapolis furniture and bicycle drive—"Sofas & Spokes"—is coming soon! On Saturday, May 16 from 9:00-noon at Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church (511 Groveland Ave, Minneapolis) donations of gently used furniture and bicycles will be accepted. Furniture and bicycles will then be given to guests of Align Minneapolis outreach ministries to assist in furnishing new apartments and to provide bicycles as an economical, reliable, and environmentally-friendly method of transportation to work and appointments. Questions? Contact Julia at 612-317-3413 or jfreeman@mary.org. Adult bikes only; no beds, appliances or construction materials, please.



## Sign up at the Welcome Desk

Here are the current things you can sign up for or inquire about at the welcome desk:

- March OWLS Trip
- Confirmation Worship Notes
- Homeless Day on the Hill Bus
- Annual Reports
- Lenten Devotionals
- ELCA World Hunger Jar Wrappers
- Parking Lot Access Cards

## eSpirit

Stay up-to-date on the weekend happenings ahead of the weekend with the weekly eSpirit newsletter. You will also receive the edevos and any weather or meeting cancellation notices. This is also the way we will communicate about funerals coming up and any parking/road closure informaton. If you don't receive this electronic newsletter, please sign up at [www.centralmpls.org](http://www.centralmpls.org) or email Sara Masters at [smasters@centralmpls.org](mailto:smasters@centralmpls.org).

## Parking Lot Access Cards

All members of the Central family may obtain a parking lot access card. Stop by the welcome desk to inquire about getting a card. Or pick up your card if you asked for one in the past.

# news and happenings

## Great Room Welcome Team Invite

Information Meeting, Sunday, March 1 at 11:45 a.m., fireside room  
You are invited to consider being a great room “welcomer” to help identify and welcome visitors here at Central Lutheran. To learn more about this, and to see if this is a fit for you, there will be an information meeting offered on Sunday, March 1, at 11:45 a.m. in the fireside room.

## ACTS Circle

Tuesday, March 10, 6:00 p.m. nativity.  
ACTS Circle will meet March 10 at Central. All women who are interested in Christian fellowship and fun are invited to join the women of ACTS Circle. We will use the March *Gather* magazine as our basis for conversation (topic happily provided by host). A light meal and beverage will be provided. There is plenty of room at the table; please join us! For questions or to RSVP, contact Karen Snyder at 952-831-6342 or karen@snyders.info.

## A Different Kind of Book Club

Thursday, March 12, 1:30 p.m., nativity  
In March, we are reading “Just Mercy” by Bryan Stevenson. Discussion leader is Dick Shinofield. Any questions may be directed to Bonnie Palmquist at bonnieskier@yahoo.com or 612-822-4348.

## Camp Amnicon Packs & Paddles Benefit Fundraiser

Sunday, March 15, 4:00 p.m., Central Lutheran Church  
Mark your calendars for Camp Amnicon’s annual benefit fundraiser Packs & Paddles. We will celebrate the lives that have been changed at Amnicon and help provide camper scholarships. For questions or to RSVP, please call 715-364-2602, or email info@amnicon.org.

### Because of you...

Fellowship opportunities for senior adults, under the heading of Older Wiser Lutheran Seniors (OWLS), involve monthly outings and programs to build strong relationships among Central members and friends.

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29

5:00 p.m. Worship  
5:45 p.m. Saturday Evening Fellowship

## SUNDAY, MARCH 1

8:30 a.m. Worship  
9:30 a.m. Adult Faith Formation  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
9:30 a.m. Confirmation  
9:30 a.m. Foundation Investment Committee  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
11:45 a.m. Community Meal  
11:45 a.m. Baptism Orientation  
11:45 a.m. New/Potential Member Orientation  
11:45 a.m. Choristers’ Rehearsal  
11:45 a.m. Great Room Welcomer Meeting

## MONDAY, MARCH 2

9:00 a.m. Emergency Rental Assistance  
10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens  
10:00 a.m. Augsburg Central Health Commons  
10:00 a.m. Community Meal Volunteers  
11:00 a.m. Worship  
11:30 a.m. Community Meal  
12:00 p.m. Bible Study  
12:00 p.m. Street Song Rehearsal  
5:00 p.m. WorshipLife Ministry Team

## TUESDAY, MARCH 3

10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens  
12:30 p.m. Floral Guild  
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting  
2:00 p.m. Empowering Conversations Team  
5:15 p.m. Personnel Committee  
6:00 p.m. Circle of Gratitude

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

9:00 a.m. Emergency Rental Assistance  
9:00 a.m. Free Store Volunteers  
10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens  
12:00 p.m. Lenten Worship  
12:30 p.m. Soup/Salad Luncheon  
1:00 p.m. Bible Study with Preacher  
5:50 p.m. Bell Choir  
6:00 p.m. Adult Faith Formation  
7:00 p.m. Lenten Evening Prayer  
7:30 p.m. Central Choir

## THURSDAY, MARCH 5

8:30 a.m. Street Voices of Change  
10:00 a.m. Augsburg Central Health Commons  
10:00 a.m. Free Store Opens  
12:30 p.m. Emergency Rental Assistance  
2:00 p.m. Align Minneapolis ERA Review Team

## FRIDAY, MARCH 6

Building closed

**CENTRAL LUTHERAN**  
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centralmpls.org

Members of :

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America | [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)  
Align Minneapolis | [www.alignmpls.org](http://www.alignmpls.org) ReconcilingWorks | [www.reconcilingworks.org](http://www.reconcilingworks.org)

## “SPIRIT” SUBMISSIONS

Submit items for consideration  
by Tuesday at 4 p.m. each  
week for the upcoming issue  
to [smasters@centralmpls.org](mailto:smasters@centralmpls.org)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

[prayers@centralmpls.org](mailto:prayers@centralmpls.org)



Use this barcode to exit the parking lot after worship.